## 8th High School of Athens (8th Lykeio Athinon)

Our school is one of the oldest schools in Athens.

It was founded in 1880. In 1930 it is located in a building constructed by a very important benefactor named Michail Nomikos. It is located in the centre of Athens in "Patissia" district. In the past (at the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century), our neighbourhood used to be a suburb full of cypresses, lots of springs and numerous gardens.



Athenians used to hang around on Sundays to enjoy this place which combined the beauties of every aspect of the city. They walked along Patission street having the Acropolis behind them. Ahead, they could admire the bright cliffs of the mount Parnitha. On the left they could see the beautiful port (Piraeus) whereas on the right they would come in view of the Licabettus hill.



As time went by, Patissia changed profoundedly and today it is considered as one of the most densely populated areas not only of Athens but of the whole Europe!! It is full of appartment blocks with very few parks although there are still some beautiful remnants of the 30's , 40's and 50's , the so called "neoclassical" style houses which remind us of another era which attract anyone who passes by them.



In recent years Patissia has been transformed into a melting pot of different cultures due to the urbanization and the influx of immigrants who live in the area, hoping and working for a better future for their families and themselves.

As a result our students form a multicultural group of different origins from the Balkans, Asia and Africa as well.

Our school is more than 100 years old. Lots of students studied there even from the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century trying to fulfill their educational needs, being taught by exceptional teachers who followed various reforms. Many famous scientists, artists and politicians graduated from our school.



The building constitutes of a characteristic architectural style of the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century. Spacious classrooms with high windows, marble stairs, a very big schoolyard with a small chapel in honour of the benefactor and also sports facilities provide a comfortable, human and friendly atmosphere for both students and teachers.



It is obvious that time has left its traces on this historical building partly abandoned and ignored by the authorities.

We deeply hope that with the given love and interest of both students and teachers, who are conscious of its value, will finally succeed in restoring it and bring back its previous glamour and prestige.

In conclusion, we would like to express our best feelings towards you and that we are looking forward to meeting you through this progamme and get in touch as well.